

## Message Text

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44

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 USIE-00 AID-05 FAA-00 DOTE-00 AGR-05

EB-07 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 OC-05 CCO-00 OPR-02 IGA-01 PC-01 FBO-02 A-01

SCA-01 OMB-01 /077 W

----- 056258

O R 161057Z JUN 75 ZFF-4

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9753

INFO AMCONSUL KADUNA

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PASS USIA, AID, FAA, FAS

KADUNA FOR AMBASSADOR EASUM

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AFSP, PFOR, NI

SUBJECT: FMG TELLS U. S. VACATE EMBASSY ANNEX

REF: LAGOS 5582

1. FOLLOWING RECEIVED JUNE 16 FROM COMMISSIONER FOR WORKS AND HOUSING OBASANJO:

2. QUOTE: CONFIDENTIAL - REF. NO. C.494/II/157. DATE 14 JUNE, 1975. HIS EXCELLENCY MR. DONALD B. EASUM, EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, YAKUBU GOWON STREET, LAGOS. PROPERTY AT 1-3 MOLONEY STREET, LAGOS.

3. I AM WRITING TO CONFIRM THE SUBSTANCE OF MY DISCUSSIONS WITH YOU AND MR. J. CROSBY, MINISTER/COUNSELLOR IN MY OFFICE THIS  
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MORNING AND TO PLACE ON RECORD ONCE MORE, THE FIRM WISHES OF THE

FEDERAL MILITARY GOVERNMENT TO TAKE-OVER THE PROPERTY AT 1-3  
MOLONEY STREET WITHOUT FURTHER DELAY.

4. YOU WILL RECALL THAT DURING OUR DISCUSSIONS. THE OFFICIALS  
FROM THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS C9NFIRMED THAT YOUR  
PREDECESSOR IN OFFICE WAS FULLY AWARE OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S  
DECISION TO TAKE OVER THIS PROPERTY AS FAR BACK AS 1973, AND THAT  
THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND THE UNITED STATES EMBASSY  
HAD DISCUSSED THE MATTER ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS. EVEN IF I  
CONCEDE THAT YOUR EMBASSY WAS NOT HITHERTO INFORMED ABOUT THE  
INTENTIONS OF GOVERNMENT EARLIER ON, NO ONE CAN DENY THE PUBLI-  
CATION AND RECEIPT OF THE REQUISITION ORDER ISSUED ABOUT EIGHT  
WEEKS AGO AND WHICH VESTED THE PROPERTY AT 1-3 MOLONEY STREET IN  
THE FEDERAL MILITARY GOVERNMENT WITH EFFECT FROM 14TH APRIL, 1975.  
MOREOVER, THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HAS SINCE OFFERED FOR YOUR  
TEMPORARY USE, THE PROPERTY AT NO. 10 OKOTIE-EBOH STREET TO TIDE  
YOU OVER THE PERIOD BETWEEN NOW AND THE COMPLETION OF THE CON-  
STRUCTION OF YOUR PERMANENT OFFICES. IN THIS REGARD, IT HAS  
BEEN AGREED THAT YOUR EMBASSY WILL NOT BE REQUIRED TO PAY ANY  
RENT FOR THE PERIOD COVERED BY UNEXPIRED LEASE IN RESPECT OF 1-3  
MOLONEY STREET. THIS HAS MADE IT ALL THE MORE DIFFICULT TO UNDER-  
STAND WHY NO POSITIVE RESPONSE HAS BEEN MADE BY YOUR EMBASSY TO  
CO-OPERATE WITH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ON THIS SUBJECT.

5. ALTHOUGH YOU INDICATED THIS MORNING THAT YOU HAD ACCEPTED IN  
PRINCIPLE TO MOVE OUT OF 1-3 MOLONEY STREET, YOU HINTED THAT IT  
WOULD BE NECESSARY FOR YOU TO INFORM THE OTHER UNITED STATES  
AGENCIES OCCUPYING THE PREMISES BUT WHICH WERE NOT DIRECTLY UNDER  
YOUR CONTROL; THESE ARE USIS, USAID AND THE FEDERAL AVIATION  
AUTHORITY. YOU INFORMED ME THAT APART FROM THE NEED TO OBTAIN  
THEIR CONCURRENCE TO MOVE, IT WOULD ALSO BE NECESSARY TO KNOW  
WHERE THE FUNDS FOR ANY IMPROVEMENTS TO OKOTIE-EBOH STREET  
WOULD COME FROM SINCE YOU DID NOT HAVE THE FUNDS AT THE MOMENT.

6. I AGREED THAT YOU SHOULD MAKE THE NECESSARY CONTACTS WITH  
WASHINGTON D. C. TO OBTAIN THE CLEARANCE YOU NEEDED AS A MATTER  
OF URGENCY. I INDICATED THAT I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE POSSESSION OF  
1-3 MOLONEY STREET WITHIN A WEEK ALTHOUGH I AGREED ALSO THAT A  
JOINT PHYSICAL INSPECTION OF 10 OKOTIE-EBOH SHOULD BE CARRIED  
OUT AT 2.00 P. M. ON MONDAY 16TH JUNE, 1975 AND THAT WE WOULD  
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MEET ON TUESDAY 24TH JUNE, 1975 TO REVIEW THE PROGRESS YOU HAVE  
MADE IN VACATING THE SAID PROPERTY. I WOULD HOWEVER LIKE TO  
RE-EMPHASISE THE URGENCY ATTACHED TO THIS EXERCISE AND ALSO MAKE  
IT CLEAR THAT I CANNOT WAIT INDEFINITELY TO IMPLEMENT A DIRECTIVE  
OF THE FEDERAL MILITARY GOVERNMENT. AND NO SELF-RESPECTING  
SOVEREIGN STATE WOULD ALLOW ITS DECISION TO BE FLAGRANTLY DIS-  
REGARDED.

7. IT IS MY FIRM WISH AND HOPE THEREFORE, THAT NOTHING WILL BE  
DONE DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY TO FRUSTRATE THE INTENTIONS OF THE  
FEDERAL MILITARY GOVERNMENT. THIS IS A STRAIGHT FORWARD EXERCISE  
THE EXECUTION OF WHICH CAN BE EASILY ACCOMPLISHED GIVEN THE  
NECESSARY GOODWILL. I SINCERELY HOPE THAT THIS MATTER WILL BE  
SETTLED IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS AND THAT WITH YOUR CO-OPERATION,  
THE CORDIAL RELATIONS BETWEEN YOUR COUNTRY AND MINE WILL NOT BE  
AFFECTED ONE BIT. BRIG. O. OBASANJO, COMMISSIONER FOR WORKS  
AND HOUSING. UNQUOTE.  
EASUM

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## Message Attributes

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